

## OPINION 710

*ENHYDRUS* LAPORTE, 1834 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA):  
VALIDATED UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

**RULING.**—(1) Under the plenary powers:

- (a) the generic name *Enhydrus* MacLeay, 1825, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy;
- (b) the work entitled *Coleoptera und Lepidoptera. Ein Systematisches Verzeichniss*, published in 1823 by Georg Dahl, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of zoological nomenclature.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Enhydrus* Laporte, 1834 (gender: masculine), type-species, by monotypy, *Gyrinus sulcatus* Wiedemann, 1821 (Name No. 1600);
- (b) *Helochares* Mulsant, 1844 (gender: masculine), type-species, by designation by C. G. Thomson, 1859, *Dytiscus lividus* Forster, 1771 (Name No. 1601).

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *sulcatus* Wiedemann, 1821, as published in the binomen *Gyrinus sulcatus* (type-species of *Enhydrus* Laporte, 1834) (Name No. 1991);
- (b) *lividus* Forster, 1771, as published in the binomen *Dytiscus lividus* (type-species of *Helochares* Mulsant, 1844) (Name No. 1992).

(4) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Enhydrus* Rafinesque, 1815 (an incorrect spelling for *Enhydris* Latreille, [1802]) (Name No. 1703);
- (b) *Enhydrus* MacLeay, 1825 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) (a) above) (Name No. 1704);
- (c) *Enhydrus* Dahl, 1823 (published in a work suppressed under the plenary powers for nomenclatorial purposes) (Name No. 1705);
- (d) *Epinectus* Dejean, 1833 (a nomen nudum) (Name No. 1706);
- (e) *Helophilus* Mulsant, 1844 (a junior homonym of *Helophilus* Leach, 1817) (Name No. 1707);
- (f) *Helophygas* Motschoulsky, 1853 (a junior objective synonym of *Helochares* Mulsant, 1844) (Name No. 1708);
- (g) *Epinectes* Régimbart, 1877 (a junior objective synonym of *Enhydrus* Laporte, 1834) (Name No. 1709);
- (h) *Prothydrus* Guignot, 1954 (a junior objective synonym of *Enhydrus* Laporte, 1834) (Name No. 1710).

(5) The family-group name PROTHYDRINAE Guignot, 1954 (type-genus *Prothydrus* Guignot, 1954) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name No. 404.

(6) The following entry is hereby made on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Works in Zoological Nomenclature with the Title Number 71:

Dahl (G.) 1823. *Coleoptera und Lepidoptera. Ein Systematisches Verzeichniss*. Wien. (suppressed under the plenary powers for nomenclatorial purposes).

#### HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 398)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission in July 1960 by Mr. J. Balfour-Browne and Dr. Per Brinck. The application was sent to the printer on 22 September 1960 and published on 14 April 1961 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **18** : 137–139. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51–56) and to seven entomological serials. The proposals were supported by Dr. Georg Ochs. An objection to the rejection of Dahl's "*Coleoptera und Lepidoptera*" was received from Dr. T. J. Spilman.

On December 1, 1961 Voting Paper (61) 38 was issued to Commissioners concerning the proposals of Mr. Balfour-Browne and Dr. Brinck. In the course of voting on the application, Commissioner Holthuis stated that he believed Dahl's work to be an available publication under the Code, and insisted that it could be rejected only by the use of the plenary powers. A notice to this effect was published on 28 May 1962 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **19** : 144 and V.P. (61)38 was cancelled. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers to suppress Dahl's work of 1823 was given in the latter part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications and to seven entomological serials. No objection was received.

#### DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 24 October 1963 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (63)31 either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **18** : 138–139 and **19** : 144 (Paragraph 10(1) on page 138 of volume 18 to be corrected to read: "to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Enhydrus* MacLeay, 1825, for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy"). At the close of the prescribed voting period on 24 January 1964 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—twenty-eight (28), received in the following order: China, Hemming, Brinck, Hering, Holthuis, Vokes, Bonnet, Tortonese, Hubbs, Riley, Boschma, Stoll, Lemche, Uchida, Mayr, Simpson, Borchsenius, Miller, do Amaral, Jaczewski, Alvarado, Binder, Forest, Obruchev, Mertens, Kraus, Ride, Evans.

Negative votes—one (1): Sabrosky.

Voting Papers not returned—one (1): Munroe

Commissioner Sabrosky returned the following comment with his negative vote:

"The solutions offered in the application (as amended) are possibly unnecessary and potentially dangerous, and I ask that the case be re-examined.

"I agree with Holthuis that Dahl (1823) is an available publication. The objection of my colleague, T. J. Spilman, was on the same basis. He assures me that Dahl's introduction shows that it was intended as a catalogue or check list, as well as a price list (in part).

"This being admitted, it is dangerous to suppress the work unless *all* included new genera have been investigated to see whether suppression would cause any difficulty for them. Suppression of the entire work merely to save *Enhydrus* Castelnau may be poor economy. Let us not create problems that we know not of.

### *Enhydrus*

"There is nothing in the application to suggest that *Enhydrus* is an important name that would merit action under the plenary powers. Guignot (1954) was perfectly justified under the Rules in renaming a primary homonym, and his action should not be upset without real justification. The Coleopterorum Catalogus, Gyrinidae (1910) listed only four species of *Enhydrus* in the world, all Neotropical, and Blackwelder (1944), in cataloguing Neotropical Coleoptera, likewise lists only four species. Does this small number justify plenary action? I doubt it.

"The application contained no information as to whether a type-species has ever been selected for *Enhydrus* Dahl. Or if so, what is it and how does it complicate the picture, or does it? If not, can one be chosen among the many originally included species so that *Enhydrus* Dahl would be a synonym of some older name? It would probably be desirable, because of confusion in the aquatic Coleoptera between Gyrinidae and Hydrophilidae, for the name to disappear completely.

"Incidentally, MacLeay's *Enhydrus* should *not* be suppressed under the plenary powers. If Dahl's paper is accepted as an available publication, the MacLeay's *Enhydrus* is just what MacLeay said it was, merely a later use of *Enhydrus* Dahl (ex Megerle)."

Secretary's Note: During the course of preparation of this Opinion it was discovered that the family-group Name ENHYDRINI Régimbart, 1882, proposed by the applicants for addition to the Official List is a homonym of ENHYDRINAE Gray, 1825, already placed on the Official List by the Ruling given in Direction 53. The latter name is based on the mammal genus *Enhydra* Fleming, 1822. The question of a substitute for ENHYDRINI Régimbart will be dealt with in another application to the Commission.

### ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists and Indexes by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

*Enhydrus* Dahl, 1823, *Col. u. Lepid.*: 34

*Enhydrus* Laporte, 1834, *Étud. Ent.* (2): 110

*Enhydrus* MacLeay, 1825, *Annul. Jav.* 1 : 35

*Enhydrus* Rafinesque, 1815, *Analyse Nature*: 77

*Epinictes* Régimbart, 1877, *Ann. Soc. ent. France* (5) 7 : 105

*Epinectus* Dejean, 1833, *Cat. Coléopt.* (ed. 2): 48

*Helochares* Mulsant, 1844, *Palp.*: Errata et Addenda to page 132

*Helophilus* Mulsant, 1844, *Palp.*: 132

*Helophygas* Motschoulsky, 1853, *Hydrocan. Russ.*: 11

*lividus*, *Dytiscus*, Forster, 1771, *Nov. Spec. Ins.*: 52

PROTHYDRINAE Guignot, 1954, *Bull. Ann. Soc. ent. Belg.* 90 : 45

*Prothydrus* Guignot, 1954, *Bull. Ann. Soc. ent. Belg.* 90 : 45

*sulcatus*, *Gyrinus*, Wiedemann, 1821, *Mag. Ent. (Germar)* 4 : 119

The following is the original reference for the designation of a type-species for a genus concerned in the present Ruling:

For *Helochares* Mulsant, 1844: C. G. Thomson, 1859, *Skand. Coleopt.* 1 : 18.

#### CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (63)31 were cast as set out above, that the proposals set out in that Voting Paper have been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 710.

W. E. CHINA

*Acting Secretary*

*International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*

*London*

*2 March 1964*